

Charles E. Windsor August 22, 1927 - February 2, 2004



Program



Musical Prelude: Amazing Grace

Processional

Greetings, Pastoral Prayer Rev. Dr. George C.L. Cummings

Solo: Lord's Prayer Tina Smith

Poem: A Man Of Distinction

Lawrence E. Hill

Composed by Dorothy Donaville

Memory Cards/Reading Frank Puglisi

Testimony Sudents Representing WEBCA Schools and Friday Night Chess Club

Solo: He Looked Beyond My Faults Heidi Hill

Remarks: Relationships Larry D. Hill

A view of Chuck's Remarkable Life Reginald Drakeford - Technician

Solo Heidi Hill

Poem: What A Life Landon and Langston Hill, Grandsons

Closing Remarks Rev. Dr. George C.L. Cummings

Musical Recessional: If I Only Had Time

The Family Invites You To A Repast - Reception Area









Charles Windsor,

unlike any other

Chuck is at peace. He leaves us much to be grateful for: wonderful memories, a beautiful family, and hundreds of Windsor East Bay Chess Academy children growing up to make this a better world for all of us.

Chuck. Unlike any other. Born in Los Angeles, he grew roots that would spread across the country. Friends in New York, Los

Angeles and St. Louis are holding services to celebrate his life, as we are today.

Chuck first left Los Angeles in 1945 to attend University of Iowa, continuing a tradițion established by both his mother and father. He interrupted

his education for an Army stint in pre-war Korea, where he served as a surgical technician, and then returned to Iowa to finish his degree in 1951.

When he left Iowa, it was not only with a degree in

Sociology, but also with a bride. He met Nancy Smith at his fraternity's Winter Ball just before her freshman year. The two became loving companions for what would become a 52-year marriage.

Shortly after graduation, Chuck and Nancy headed from Iowa to Los Angeles, where Chuck's degree landed him a job as Social Worker for the LA Bureau of Public Assistance.



In 1953, Chuck and Nancy gained a new center in their lives with the birth of their daughter, Karen.

During whatever hours he mustered between family and career, Chuck honed his woodworking skills. In 1964, he built a hand-carved coffee table for Nancy that to this day, remains her most treasured piece of furniture.

Chuck's deep-seated passion to create opportunity for people living at the far edges of life is what made him the perfect candidate to join the founding staff of Martin Luther King, Jr. General Hospital in

1967. This job put Chuck in the heart of Watts, a community still reeling from the 1965 riots, and an area with few jobs, no hospital, and plenty of unfulfilled economic and health care needs.

Chuck knew that creating jobs was a better answer than welfare if Watts was ever to break its cycle of despair. He involved the community in the hiring process, an unheard of practice in those days, and more than 6,000 local residents applied for the unskilled hospital jobs. On one of LA's hottest summer days, more than 12,000 turned out for King Hospital's cornerstone ceremonies in 1971.

Chuck's talents caught the eye of hospital executives across the country. In 1973, he was lured to New York to become Executive Director of Harlem Hospital and then in 1974,

was appointed to a position supervising 19 executive directors of hospitals and four family care centers—a total of 55,000 employees.

San Francisco General Hospital stood next in line with a calling card for Chuck and in 1976, he became their Director. He and Nancy packed up for a another cross-country move.

In 1978, he moved on to become San Mateo County's Director of Health and Welfare.

Two years later, Chuck began a series of moves that would take him from one corner of the country to another. Nancy stayed

in San Francisco to maintain their home and finish out her career.

Chuck's first stop in this phase of his career was New Orleans, where he directed the acquisition of an acute care hospital by 52 minority physicians. Next stop was Brooklyn, New York as Deputy Operations Director for Kings County Hospital Center.





From there, Chuck returned to Harlem Hospital Center as Executive Director.

The innovative care center Chuck established for babies born with AIDS drew such visiting dignitaries as then-First Ladies Rosalyn Carter and Barbara Bush, and Princess Diana.

In1990, Chuck pulled up his New York stakes and headed to East St. Louis, where he'd accepted the position of President and CEO of St. Mary's Hospital.

Meanwhile, daughter Karen had graduated from Cal Berkeley and received her Masters from Washington University in St. Louis.

In 1986, she married Larry Hill. This Windsor-Hill union blessed Chuck and Nancy with two grandsons, Landon, born in 1989, and Langston, in 1990.



Now with two ogrand-children, his wife, daughter and

son-in-law all in the Bay Area, Chuck grew anxious to return home.

In 1994, he packed up his St. Louis townhouse, joined Nancy in their new





East Bay home, and decided to try his hand at retirement.

Leisure was not to be a part of Chuck's version of retirement. He fed his passions for tennis, golf and chess, and before long, outgrew his workshop.

Chuck poked his head out from retirement in 1995 when he accepted the position of interim director at Oakland's Highland Hospital. Within six months, he knew hospital administration was now firmly in his past, and he turned back to perfecting his own brand of retirement.

Chuck hooked up with Alex Donaville to form a new partnership specializing

in cabinetry and home refurbishing. He made time between contracting gigs to hone his grandsons' chess skills.





A defining moment for Chuck's retirement came the day he called on his grandsons' elementary school, volunteering to teach an after-school chess class. Soon after, his class was full and he was recruiting parent volunteers. By 1999, his passion for teaching chess had grown into a full-fledged non-profit organization, Windsor East Bay Chess Academy, or WEBCA.

"When I retired, I thought I'd be working in my new workshop. Now I don't have much time for woodworking. Teaching chess has really consumed me and I love it," he said as excitement in WEBCA began to spread.

Word-of-mouth put WEBCA on the map. With the dawn of 2003, Chuck had both before and after-school programs operating in 11 schools with 300



students participating. He convinced three schools to offer in-class instruction. He sponsored weekly tournaments and three annual Chess Fests. He also consulted with Contra Costa College to establish its campus chess club.

Chuck's son-in-law staged a huge surprise for Chuck in 2001: Larry orchestrated the participation of International Grand Master Maurice Ashley at WEBCA's first Chess Fest. So impressed was Ashley with WEBCA that he jumped at the opportunity to return in 2002 and 2003.

Why did teaching chess become such a passion for Chuck? His list of

benefits for children is long, including strategic and critical thinking, cross-cultural socialization skills, reward for determination and perseverance,





self esteem, sportsmanship, concentration, problem-solving, responsibility for decisions and risk-taking, design of back-up plans, taking wins and losses in stride.

Michael Robinson, 5th grade teacher at Patten Academy in Oakland, sums up another major benefit for inner-city schools: "I have kids in my class who are fighters, and they tell me how they've learned from chess to use their wits instead of their fists." One student said to Robinson, "Chess is a fun mental game...it calms me down when I'm angry."

Donovan, a 14-year old WEBCA student, was recently asked, "What do you like best about Mr. Windsor?" He needed no time to ponder his answer: "Mr. Windsor himself!"

Chuck, you live on in so many ways. The vision you formed, the kids you taught, and the kids yet to join WEBCA are all part of your legacy. But even more, each one of these kids



Thank you, Chuck. We'll miss you.



will pass something of "Big Buddy" on to their kids, and their grandkids. You and WEBCA have done what no state's education system can match.

And so, while you rest in peace, the rest of us are coming to another kind of peace—one marked by all that your life leaves behind, for each and every one of us.

Chuck's family would like to thank everyone for their love and support during this trying and sad time.

A scholarship fund has been established in Chuck's memory as an extension of his total commitment to boost academic opportunities for young people. Scholarships will be awarded to Windsor East Bay Chess Academy (WEBCA) high school seniors who continue on to college.

WEBCA is a 501(c)3 organization and contributions are tax deductible. The IRS ID# is 91-2141005.

WEBCA 11222 Lochard St. Oakland, CA 94605

What A Life To Live

He came in as an innocent baby

Left as a wise man

His soul has not been burned

Even though his body has been

Touched so many people
Had so much to give
Made the world a better place
What a life to live

From teaching us life lessons
To teaching us chess
He did a great job
He was one of the best

He went out of the world peaceful
He lived his life the same
Helped many people out
Never seeking fame

Pray for a good man
For such a good life
Pray for the people that love him
Especially his wife

He had a big heart
And was full of love
He was like an angel from heaven
Or the white dove

He enjoyed many activities
And liked to have fun
Could never wait until the next day
To see the rising sun

But now he sees an even brighter light

One even brighter than before

The one that shines very bright

The one that shines through heaven's door



By Chuck's Grandsons, **Landon Windsor Hill** and **Langston Everett Hill** February 12, 2004